

Message Text

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EXCON

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, GW, UR

SUBJ: GERMAN NUMERICAL CONTROL SYSTEMS TO USSR - IL 1091

REF : COCOM DOC(73)2462

1. USDEL SHOULD OBJECT TO GERMAN REQUEST TO EXPORT EIGHT SINUMERIK 580 COMPUTER NUMERICAL CONTROL SYSTEMS (CNC) FOR USE WITH FLAME CUTTING MACHINES TO CHERSON SHIPYARD IN USSR. CNC SYSTEMS ARE THE CURRENT STATE-OF-THE-ART IN NC EQUIPMENT AND REPRESENT AN ADVANCED CAPABILITY IN WHICH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE BLOC ARE PRESENTLY DEFICIENT. WHILE US IS AWARE THAT EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE BY BLOC COUNTRIES TO ACHIEVE THIS CAPABILITY, WE ARE REASONABLY SURE THAT SOVIETS AND OTHER BLOC COUNTRIES HAVE A WAY TO GO BEFORE ACHIEVING CAPABILITY COMPARABLE TO WEST. THE ADDED DIMENSIONS OF ACCURACY AND FLEXIBILITY AVAILABLE IN CNC SYSTEMS OVER THAT OBTAINABLE IN HARDWIRED NC'S MAKES CNC EQUIPMENT HIGHLY USEFUL IN THE STRATEGIC AREA.

2. WE AGREE WITH GERMAN INTERPRETATION IN PARA 3 REFD
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THAT FLAME CUTTING EQUIPMENT IS NOT EMBARGOED BY IL 1091

(AS NOTED IN COCOM DOC REV(71)1091/2) AND THAT THE SINUMERIK 580 CNC IS EMBARGOED BY IL 1091 NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT THESE SYSTEMS ARE TO BE INCORPORATED ON NON-EMBARGOED EQUIPMENT. STATEMENT BY GERMANS THAT THE SINUMERIK CONTROLS HAVE BEEN SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR FLAME

CUTTING DOES NOT OBVIATE THEIR USEFULNESS IN CONTROLLING STRATEGIC METAL REMOVAL MACHINE TOOLS SUCH AS LATHES, DRILLING, AND MILLING MACHINES AS NOTED IN GERMAN TECHNICAL BROCHURES DEPOSITED WITH SECRETARIAT (SEE PAGE 6). FUNCTIONS OF CNC SYSTEM DETERMINED PRIMARILY BY SOFTWARE WHICH CAN BE ADAPTED OR MODIFIED TO ACHIEVE DESIRED MACHINING FUNCTION.

3. IN MAKING PRESENTATION OF US POSITION ON CASE IN COMMITTEE, USDEL SHOULD STATE THAT IT HAS RECENTLY COME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE US AUTHORITIES THAT THEY ERRONEOUSLY LICENSED THE REEXPORT OF THREE US CNC SYSTEMS TO THE USSR IN THE SUMMER OF 1973 WHICH WERE TO BE INCORPORATED ON FLAME CUTTING EQUIPMENT. THE LICENSES WERE ISSUED BECAUSE THE EXPORT WAS REPRESENTED TO US AUTHORITIES AS SHIPMENT OF SMALL COMPUTERS INSTEAD OF CNC SYSTEMS. THE US AUTHORITIES WANT TO BRING THIS MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE IN ORDER THAT THERE IS NO MISUNDERSTANDING OVER US INTENTION TO MAINTAIN A CONSISTENT COCOM EMBARGO OVER CNC SYSTEMS. RUSH

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